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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 27 | Min 19 | Humidity 82% Generally cloudy sky and rain Sensex 59,031 | Nifty 17,577 | Gold 51,332 | Silver 55,146 | Dollar 79.79 | Euro 79.66 | GBP 94.38

While parents work whole day, a spacious Anganwadi could help holistic growth of children in Narasimha Colony, say residents

SPACE ODYSSEY

600 families in locality depend on daily-wage labour

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Anganwadi is a two-floor building in Narasimha Colony located behind the KSRTC Satellite Bus Stand on Mysore Road. Inside the centre, there is just enough space for children with a staircase leading to a storeroom above. Around 600 families in Narasimha Colony depend on daily-wage labour.

Residents here feel a spacious Anganwadi could be a source of encouragement for the children. With parents working the whole day to make both ends meet, the Anganwadi centre could help in their holistic growth.

"There is only one Anganwadi here. It's not sufficient for all children in the area. There are more than one child per family; if all children are to be accommodated here, it would be difficult," said Dhanalakshmi S, a resident for many years.

The abandoned public toilet opposite to the centre is a security concern for children. According to residents, the public toilet in disuse has become a den of illegal activities. Residents said the unused building has also become a threat to women's safety; they are requesting to demolish the abandoned structure and construct a spacious Anganwadi instead.

Once individual homes were equipped with toilets, the public toilet was rendered useless roughly 7-8 years ago.

"If there is a proper Anganwadi for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

"If residents write to me, I will talk to BBMP joint commissioner and taluk level Child Development Project Officer (CDPO) to get the Anganwadi shifted...

— BH Nishcal, deputy director (Bengaluru Urban), Directorate of Women and Child Development

LAKE PLASTIC

Haralur waste menace

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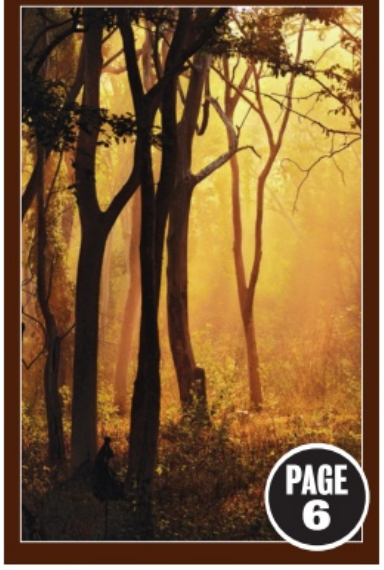
JUNGLE BOOK

Dispatches from wild



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3 THINGS TO DO

01 Run for a better B'luru

ARYAMAN is Ekya School's annual initiative to connect all the companions to come together to make Bengaluru a cleaner, greener and healthier place through multiple projects such as lake development, reforestation, conservation etc. ARYAMAN 2022 focuses on increasing the green cover of South Bengaluru through lake revival and development. It is the collaboration of children, families, friends, neighbours and the Ekya alumnus to connect over a nice, warm Sunday morning run to help power small but significant changes to Namma Bengaluru.
Where: Ekya School, BTM Layout & JP Nagar; When: September 11
Register: https://sites.google.com/ekyaschools.com/aryaman-2022/registration

02 Tunes to remember

In celebration of India's platinum year of Independence, Indian Music Experience Museum (IME), is organising a three-day classical and folk music 'Freedom Festival' featuring highly decorated Indian musicians from the Karnatic, Hindustani and Folk genres. The Freedom Festival will showcase a total of thirteen concerts over three days; highlights of which would be special performances by Padma Vibhushan Dr Umayalpuram Sivaraman, exponent of Carnatic percussion instrument, the mridangam, Langa musicians from Rajasthan and folk musicians from Bengal. **Where: IME and MLR Convention Centre premises, JP Nagar**
When: Aug 26 – 28, 11 am – 9 pm
Tickets: indianmusicexperience.org

03 Innovations and more

The 18th edition of CII's Flagship India Innovation Summit has been reimagined as 'Innoverge' with the theme 'Engineering Imagination'. The Summit will inspire collaboration and ideation by bringing cross section of stakeholders to engage, share, understand and learn about the futuristic and imaginative world of high-end innovations. The Summit will present Innovation-led growth strategies that have catalysed the evolution of Indian industries, making Indian companies emerge as global leaders in creating the momentum to drive the digital era.
Where: Hotel Taj West End; When: Aug 25 – 27
Register: https://bit.ly/3zNV5La

Chikungunya cases has officials on alert

Test positivity rate for Chikungunya higher than covid; 43 cases in B'luru so far

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Pools of water, sewage that is not cleaned up, are all breeding grounds for mosquitoes which spread Chikungunya

Bengalureans, not covid, but Chikungunya may be the latest threat. As per data by the Health Department, the test positivity rate of Chikungunya is higher than that of Covid now and 43 Chikungunya cases have been reported in the city this year.

Out of the 43, 33 are from Bengaluru Urban and 10 from BBMP jurisdiction. In terms of the positivity rate, 33 out of 100 samples collected for Chikungunya have tested positive in the Bengaluru Urban region and 10 out of 22 samples in BBMP area were positive. Overall, Karnataka has 1,189 Chikungunya cases reported this year and the highest number of Chikungunya cases in the state was reported from Vijayapura district (166).

Health experts say that Chikungunya, a vector-borne disease is directly proportional to rainfall. Last year, 55 such cases were reported from Bengaluru. There are cases of fever with rash and persistent joint pains. Not all get tested for Chikungunya as the treatment is symptomatic and monitoring of blood counts and liver and renal parameters is needed. Many doctors say that the cases of Chikungunya could be much more as many don't get tested. According to the Union Health Ministry, 2019 was the worst year as far as Chikungunya cases were reported. In 2016, 15,666 clinically suspected Chikungunya cases were reported in the state. This number went up to 32,831 in 2017, 20,411 in 2018, 43,698 in 2019, 16,111 in 2020 and 6,928 in 2021.

Bengaluru: Dengue capital of Karnataka

So far, Bengaluru Urban has reported 1,102 dengue cases out of which, BBPM area's share was 1,058 this year. Karnataka has reported 4,008 dengue cases this year. A major share is from Mysuru with 459 cases this year, followed by Udupi with 419 cases.

Patient registrations to go online

The Health Department has announced that patient registrations in all district hospitals in Karnataka are set to go online within a month.

Experts say that spread of Chikungunya, a vector-borne disease, is directly proportional to rainfall

Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar said, "I have instructed doctors and staff to provide appointments online or via SMS to reduce crowding at the hospital. This measure is being implemented to reduce long queues. A system is being implemented where patients will be given information online or through SMS on which doctor to meet at what time.

"There won't be any need for patients to come to the hospital and wait. Any patient coming to district hospitals can take an appointment and pay online."

Jayanagar hospital to be upgraded

Sudhakar said that he has instructed officials to take necessary measures to ensure that the Jayanagar Government Hospital qualifies to meet National Quality Standard (NQS). "Through this, we have to increase the quality of service. After the covid-19 pandemic struck, a 51-bed ICU has been created here and to ensure proper functioning, the number of staff will be increased," he explained.

Students see red over delay in NEET results

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NEET 2022 was conducted on July 17 and no announcement has been made yet

It has been more than a month since the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET-UG) was conducted, yet, the answer key and results are yet to be declared. Students are anxious as they say this would mean a delay in admissions as well.

The exam was conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA) on July 17 in over 3,500 centres across the country and abroad.

"Every year, the official answer key is released within two-three weeks of the examination. Now it has been more than a month, but there is still no update about the answer key. Delay in answer key means a delay in result and admission process as well," said Vikas Patel, who appeared for the exam in July.

Though the answer key has been released by many coaching institutes, students have been waiting for the official answer key for weeks. "Since the NTA is trying to correct the academic year from next year, the exam might be in May 2023 which is about 9 months from now. If they do not publish the answer key and results on time, the students who want to sit again for 2023 don't have enough time," Patel added.

We were told that the exam cannot be postponed because NTA wants to go back to the normal academic calendar. So, why is there a delay now? Students are always made scapegoats by these officials. Some students who want to have an option between other courses and medical college might want to take admitted to other private universities. But because of the delay in results, another year will be wasted, said Aarush Y, another medical aspirant. The officials have not yet confirmed the official date for the release of the answer key and results. "It seems that it is going to take another two-three weeks for the answer key to be released," Aarush added.

More than 18 lakh candidates had registered for the medical entrance examination of whom, more than 16 lakh appeared for the test. This year, there have been several controversies about the NEET examination. The students protested for almost a month asking for the exam to be postponed, stating insufficient preparation time as the reason. However, the exam was held as per schedule.

More bad news for PWD over land lease row

Social activist files PIL in High Court against Public Works Department for allotting space on its premises to hotelier without floating tender

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A social activist has filed a public interest litigation (PIL) in the High Court against the Public Works Department for allotting space on its premises illegally.

The PWD on April 29, 2022, had allocated around 210 sq ft of land on Nrupathunga Road to Abhisekh NG of Simple Thindi (a unit of Hallimane) for construction of a canteen. The Additional Chief Secretary of Public Works Department, in a letter dated April 29, 2022, stated that the space was allocated on a lease for 10 years at a rental of Rs 36,750 per month. It is alleged that the space was given to him without floating a tender inviting bidders -- as is the norm.

It also stated that the lease agreement entered with Abhisekh is temporary and it can be revoked at any time with a three-month notice and the lessee has to return the space to the Public Works Department by demolishing the structure on his own.

The then PWD Additional Chief Secretary Anil Kumar BH, who retired from service on July 31, assured that he would direct the officials to stop the construction work.

With no progress in cancelling the allotment of the site, Sai Datta, the social activist and petitioner, has now filed a PIL in the High Court to cancel the allotment of space on the PWD Head Office premises on Nrupathunga Road.

"The PWD authorities have not followed the norms while allotting the space or land on the PWD Head Office premises. The allotment of space is against the norms of Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act, 1999. The authorities allotted the space without floating a tender inviting the bidders," said Rameshchandra, advocate for Datta.

Datta mentioned the State of Karnataka represented by its Chief Secretary, Department of Public Works represented by its Additional Chief Secretary, and the Chief Engineer of PWD as the respondents in the PIL.

The petitioner also appealed to the High Court to issue a direction for quashing the order issued by the state government on April 29, 2022. He has also requested the High Court to direct the investigating agency to inquire into the passing of such an order by the state government and take action against those persons involved in this illegal activity. Datta also appealed to the High Court to direct the government to take appropriate action against the respondents and initiate criminal proceedings against them either by Corps of Detectives (CoD) or by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

"The High Court has served notices to the respondents," added Rameshchandra.

Proposed canteen on Nrupathunga Road's PWD Head Office premises spanning an area of 210 sq feet

BangaloreMirror
Land, without a tender? PWD does it again
Without inviting bidders, land allotted to influential hotelier, it is claimed

BM on July 29 covered the issue of how land was allotted without floating a tender

> **"The allotment of space is against the norms of Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act, 1999**
>
> –Rameshchandra, advocate for Sai Datta

New arbitrator in CPWD versus contractor case

The Karnataka High Court has replaced the sole arbitrator in a dispute between a private contractor and the Central Public Works Department (CPWD).

The CPWD had allegedly appointed one of its former chief engineers as an arbitrator which the contractor claimed posed a situation of conflict of interest.

Accepting the contention, Justice Suraj Govindaraj appointed a retired District Judge, HM Nanjundaswamy, as the sole arbitrator.

The contractor, JM Swamy, had participated in a tender in 2017 for the works related to 'combined effluent treatment plant in STC, BSF campus, Yelahanka, Bengaluru, construction of sewage treatment plant of movable bed bioreactor of 350 KLD capacity including electromechanical components', issued by the CPWD.

CPWD had allegedly appointed one of its former chief engineers which the contractor claimed was a conflict of interest

The agreement had a clause for arbitration in case of disputes. When a dispute arose in 2020, Swamy sought settlement of his claim. But, the CPWD rejected this.

Swamy approached the Superintending Engineer but there was no reply from him. He then approached the Chief Engineer, CPWD, who also rejected his claim. Swamy then approached the Dispute Redressal Committee, which also rejected his claim in 2021.

Finally, an arbitrator was appointed.

Swamy approached the high court saying the 'arbitrator appointed is a former chief engineer of CPWD and as such there is a conflict of interest'.

The judgement by the HC said, "In the facts and circumstances I'm of the opinion that the doubts on part of the petitioner are justifiable. Statutory authorities and/or governmental bodies cannot seek to appoint an arbitrator whose independence is doubted justifiably by the contractor.

"I am of the considered opinion that the above petition would be required to be allowed and an independent and impartial third-party arbitrator be appointed in the place of the arbitrator already appointed by respondent," the court said. **–PTI**

Guest workers donate blood for the greater good

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As a gesture of humanity, guest workers in and around Thubarahalli participated in a blood donation camp on August 21, commemorating 75 years of independence.

The blood camp was organised in the labour shanties of Thubarahalli's Lal Matti and guest workers donated around 46 units of blood. The donated blood went to the Indira Gandhi Children's Hospital that would aid about 120 to 130 children, the doctors said. The camp was organised by a group of NGOs such as Swaraj India, Mahila Swaraj, All India Shramik Swaraj Kendra, Vimochana - Forum for Women's Rights, Link Charitable Trust and Zindagi Public Charitable Trust.

Around 46 units of blood were donated to Indira Gandhi Children's Hospital

"The NGO members had approached several government hospitals on August 15, but to no success as they were all already booked for other blood donation camps throughout the city on Independence Day," R Kaleem Ullah, an activist from Swaraj India told Bangalore Mirror.

According to Kaleem, more than 300 guest workers had registered for the blood donation before Independence Day itself, but the Indira Gandhi Hospital's staff could only store 46 units of blood. This did not dampen the spirit however, and the guest workers were still ready to donate blood.

These guest workers, who mostly come from West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and other northern states, work as labourers for construction companies, delivery executives, drivers, rag-pickers, domestic maids, but the local administration including a few party workers engage in evicting them calling them Bangladeshis, they alleged. Most of these guest worker crowds that turned up for the blood donation camp have been victims of harassment and eviction. They are often branded as Bangladeshis and police cases are also filed against them.

"The purpose of this blood donation camp is to spread the message that humanity comes first rather than religion, caste, colour or creed. Nobody asks whose blood it is when it is given to a patient in distress," R Kaleem Ullah said. Kaleem and his associates of other NGOs are contemplating to organise similar blood camps on October 2 on Gandhi Jayanthi.

The guest workers also told this newspaper that they wished the staff at government hospitals treated them better as they often faced discrimination because of not knowing the local language. Another guest worker from Bengal also added that if the Karnataka government allowed the health cards issued by CM under free healthcare scheme Swastha Sathi, it would greatly benefit those seeking free medical care in government hospitals.

Rainy days vex special school kids

Children going to Bubbles Centre for Autism are facing immense trouble navigating slush, rain, anxiety

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While the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has exhibited immense enthusiasm in white topping the main roads of the city, many interior roads are left neglected and crying for attention. One such stretch is the approach road to a special school located in north Bengaluru.

While there has been no pucca road to the Bubbles Centre for Autism for over ten years now, the existing road has become slushy and slippery due to the recent heavy rains clubbed with hundreds of water tankers using the narrow stretch around the clock.

The outcome? There have been multiple unpleasant instances including the students and parents slipping and sustaining injuries. Some of the students have even had anxiety breakdowns. According to the school management, the 500-metre approach road has become dangerous for fully able-bodied students to navigate, let alone children with disabilities.

"Hundreds of water tankers carrying thousands of litres of water are plying on this stretch, making it difficult for the children and parents to use it. We are talking about a group of youngsters who do not have access to regular schools and are already marginalised. With this condition, they are terrified to walk that road to come to school," said Liz Albuquerque, trustee, Bubbles Centre for Autism.

Parents say dropping the kids off at school and picking them up has become a nightmare after the rains.

"My child suffers from hypotonia, which means his muscle strength is not good. He looks up and walks. Moreover, he is a non-verbal child, and there is no way to know if he is hurting. Walking on this road has given him muscle issues. We now have a physiotherapist coming home and ensuring that his muscles are alright. It is a nightmare for a parent," said Shashidhar Parikh, a parent.

According to the school authorities and parents, water tankers started using the approach road to ferry water from two borewells situated behind the school building when the school was closed due to the pandemic. However, the tankers continue to use the stretch even now.

"While the road has always been bad, the tankers moving up and down have created a dangerous situation. There are two borewells behind the school. The tankers fill the water there and take it out on the narrow road. There is this constant chain of tankers either going full or coming back empty and there is no tar left on the road," Albuquerque said.

This is the condition of the road leading up to Bubbles Centre for Autism; parents and their children often slip and fall here

> **"Many parents are not bringing their wards to school in case of a rainy day before. It is inconvenient for them** – Sarbani Mallick, Bubbles Centre for Autism

The school has about 50 regular students, and according to the management, parents have stopped bringing children for classes on rainy days.

"Since vehicles cannot ply on the road, parents are making the children walk through the whole stretch. Many parents are not bringing their wards to school in case of rain a day before. It is inconvenient for the parents to make their anxious children walk through the slurry and muck," said Sarbani Mallick, founder and managing trustee, Bubbles Centre for Autism.

While the school management and parents have taken up the issue with the authorities concerned, they lament that no action has been taken so far.

"The road is a slush. If you are in a four-wheeler, the road hits the vehicle, and if it is a two-wheeler, the vehicle sways in all directions without control. I posted a video of the road on BBMP's Sahaaya app two weeks ago, but nothing has happened," added Parikh.

Upon being contacted, a BBMP official told Bangalore Mirror that the road will be inspected soon and necessary measures will be taken to repair the stretch.

Children in need of space

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

children and their futures are secured, it will transform the locality. We are only asking for a bigger space," Dhanalakshmi told BM.

When BM visited the Anganwadi, this reporter found there wasn't sufficient space for children to even play. Open from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, the centre provides take-home ration. For boys and girls, there is only a single washroom. After the pandemic, the numbers dropped to as low as 20 at the centre, we are told. Previously, there were 70 children enrolled at the centre.

Anganwadis fall under the ambit of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme, which started in Karnataka in 1975. Anganwadis are required to cater to the supplementary nutrition of children below six years of age, pregnant and lactating mothers, adolescent girls, part from immunisation of children below six years and pregnant women, health check-ups of children below six years, pregnant and lactating mothers, referral to hospitals of children below six years, pregnant and lactating mothers, adolescent girls, pre-school education of children between the aged 3-6 years, and nutrition and health education of women in the age group of 15-45 alongside adolescent girls. As per the guidelines for the construction of Anganwadis under MGNREGS issued by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in 2015, centres should be child friendly with all relevant infrastructure, separate sitting room for children/women, separate kitchen, store for food items, child-friendly toilets and space for children to play (at least 600 sq ft for indoor and outdoor activities). However, the designs/specifications would adhere to instructions/guidelines issued by the ministry from time to time.

Narasimha Colony residents have been petitioning the authorities to rebuild the Anganwadi for years but to no avail. A resident and a petitioner for the cause, Ranjith, said if the area occupied by the public toilet is reused, a spacious three-floor building could be realised.

"I have been fighting to build the place for five years now. The education of small children is under distress here. There is not enough space in this 15x20 room," he said.

Alternatively, some residents felt there is no need for a bigger Anganwadi due to the current low enrollment numbers.

Deputy director (Bengaluru Urban), Directorate of Women and Child Development, BH Nishcal, told BM that until the last two years, there was no standard size for Anganwadis but now a 30x40-sized room is mandatory. "Initially, when Anganwadis started, only a few children were enrolling but now enrolments have increased tremendously. Also, rented buildings would increase the financial burden. Anganwadis are only paid Rs 6,000 as rent," he said.

The deputy director asked the colony residents to write to him about proposal to repurpose the abandoned public toilet: "If residents write to me, I will immediately talk to the BBMP joint commissioner and the taluk level child development project officer (CDPO) to get the Anganwadi shifted on an urgent basis."

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Clear the stones

Borewell Road

This stretch on Borewell Road, towards Nallurhalli has not been cleared of stones for many years now.

Overflowing drain

Masjid Street

Drain water has been flowing for more than 10 days in Masjid Street, Shivanagar.

BESCOM, please fix

Postal Colony

In Postal Colony there are live power connections on a pole which is cracked vertically and is at the risk of falling.

Contractor digs pits to stash away waste near lake

BBMP not supervising work on Haraluru Lake so nobody is bothered about disposing waste properly

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The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) lack of interest in supervising its contractors' work has brought forth another case of sheer neglect in maintaining Bengaluru's water bodies. This time it is Haraluru Lake that has fallen prey to the civic body's apathy.

According to the lake activists and residents, the contractor assigned by the palike to take care of the waterbody has been lackadaisical in managing the waste generated in and around the waterbody.

It has two inlets and until a few years ago, they were carrying stormwater to the lake. Although a diversion was created by the civic body a few years ago, the inlets now also carry sewage every time there is heavy rain.

"A lot of plastic waste also enters the lake and blocks the outlet. Thus, BBMP has a team of workers to clean the plastic waste. The idea is to clean the waterbody and hand over the waste to the BBMP solid waste management centre every week. While the lake outlet is being cleaned regularly, the waste is piling up adjacent to the water body. They are supposed to move it to BBMP's waste segregation centre," said Amardeep Adiga, a resident.

The issue took a turn on Tuesday afternoon when the contractor reached the lake with an earthmover and started digging huge pits near the walkway to bury all the plastic waste lying around.

"They have dug up four pits around five feet deep and seven feet wide to bury the plastic waste after we raised the issue with BBMP's lake department. These pits are like huge open wells. When the residents objected, the contractor turned abusive," said Adiga.

While the officials from the BBMP stepped in and stopped the work immediately, locals say the civic body rarely supervises its contractors' work leading to many water bodies in the city in a sorry state.

"There are around four to five truckloads of plastic waste near the lake that has not been discarded for weeks at length but the civic body is unaware of the situation. I have been maintaining this lake for the last ten years but no contractor before this had taken up such an extreme step. Moreover, BBMP's waste segregation unit is hardly a couple of km away from the lake," said another local.

A BBMP official said, "The pit was dug up for disposal of dried leaves and other organic waste. However, the contractor dumped the plastic waste by mistake and we are cleaning the pit. The waste will be taken to the BBMP's waste segregation centre."

Heavy rain to lash Karnataka for 3 more days

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) said heavy rain will lash Karnataka for the next three days and issued a yellow alert for the districts of Dakshina Kannada, Uttara Kannada, Udupi, Shivamogga, Chikkamagalur, Kodagu, Hassan and Kolar.

The fishermen in the coastal districts have been advised not to venture into the sea as winds in the region are likely to blow at a speed of 40 to 50 kilometres per hour.

Bengaluru woke up to a cloudy morning with drizzles. The IMD has also issued a yellow alert for Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru Rural, Ramnagar, Chamarajanagar, Tumakuru, Ballary and Chitradurga.

Residents of the state capital are experiencing a chill during evenings and early mornings.

Due to incessant rain, the pothole menace has again surfaced in Bengaluru. Bengaluru Traffic police department has identified the potholes through Jio Map and Fix My Street App.

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) had recently filled up more than 11,000 potholes in and around Bengaluru. BBMP officers are maintaining that the rain will have to stop for them to begin the work on potholes in the city.

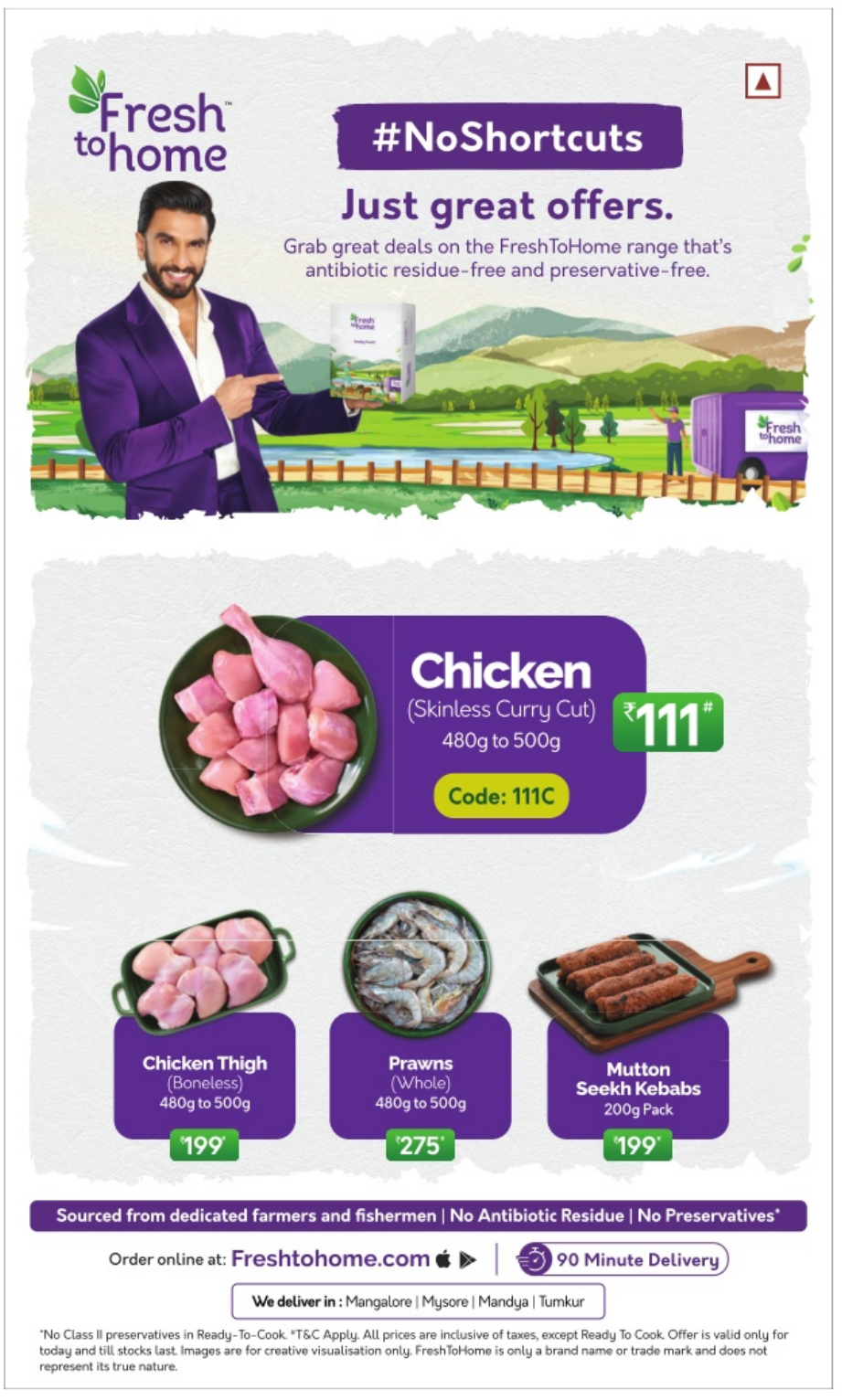
Meanwhile, BBMP has identified 1,090 potholes across the city and filled up 643. – IANS

FIR against 'godman' for sexual assault

An FIR was lodged on Tuesday against a "godman" for sexually exploiting a woman for years, and his wife for helping him in the crime in Karnataka.

According to Avalahalli police, the accused Anandamurthy met the victim at a function five years back where he told her that in future, to avert a misfortune, she has to come to his home.

When the woman rwent there, he is said to have drugged and raped her and his wife Latha made a video of the act, The victim said he raped her several times and extorted money from the family. – IANS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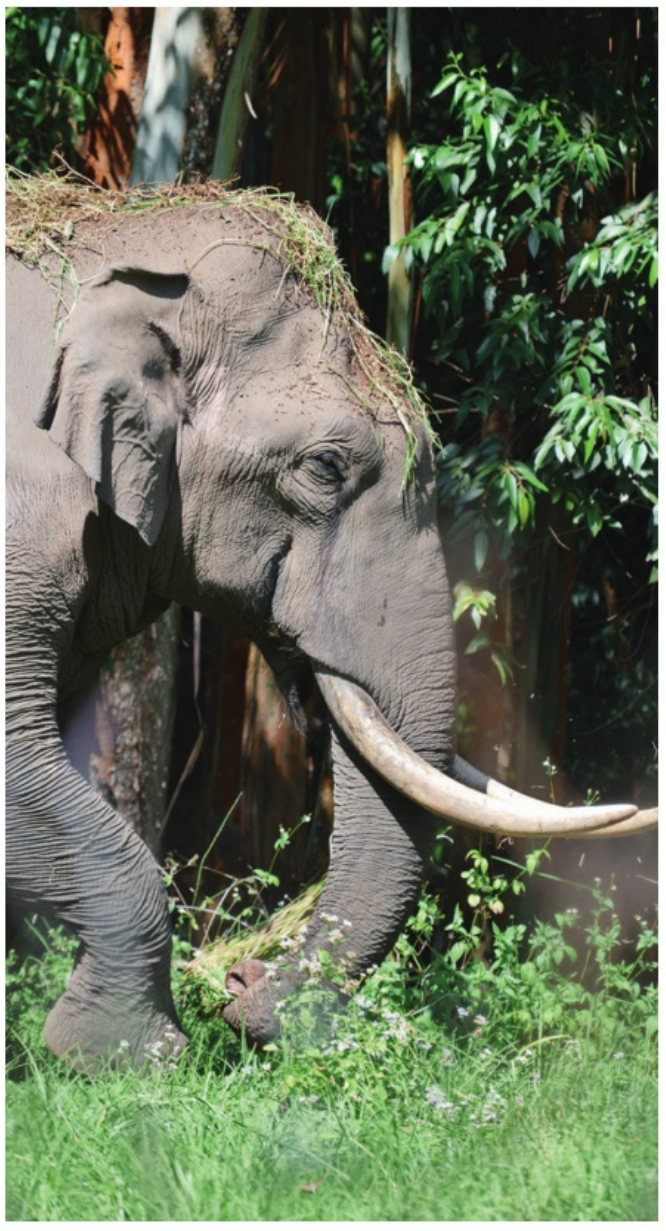
Once bitten, twice shy



Other than a female tusker, Bhanumati, Forest Department officials also used three other tamed elephants to lure the rogue animal (not in picture) following requests from farmers

Forest officials bring female elephant in hopes of 'honey trapping' tusker one more time, but in vain

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Honey traps are considered to be quite dangerous and a criminal offence, but a 'honey trap' is being used as a last resort by the Forest Department to catch a rogue elephant. However, the elephant is proving to be a tough nut to crack.

Following pressure from farmers, and after all attempts to catch the tusker failed, the forest personnel decided to use tamed elephants in an operation to lure it.

'Expert,' tamed elephants named Babanna, Somanna, and Bahadur were brought from Shivamogga for the operation 'Haveri wild tusker'. Despite the efforts of 30 people, including 11 mahouts, forest watchers, and officials, the operation failed miserably.

The Forest Department then came up with the idea to use a female tusker as the rogue was not responding to male ones. This is how Bhanumati was brought into the picture.

Initially, the forest officials believed that Bhanumati would do the trick.

For the last two days, Bhanumati has also been trying to woo the tusker, but it is not working.

Forest officials said that the elephant was preying on farmlands at night and was escaping to a nearby hillock and other places to escape from the catch party.

> **Seven months ago, the tusker was creating havoc in Haveri district and was caught using Bhanumati. The Haveri tusker was fixed with a radio collar**
> – Forest official

The failed honey trap even puzzled forest officials.

A forest official told Bangalore Mirror that the reason why the trap failed is because a similar tactic was used to catch the rogue earlier.

"Seven months ago, the tusker was creating havoc in Haveri district and was caught using Bhanumati. The Haveri tusker was fixed with a radio collar and then rehabilitated to Tanigebailu forest in Chikkamagaluru. The elephant, which was roaming in the forests of Hebbe and Muttodi, started straying to nearby farmlands, creating trouble.

Now, forest officials feel that the wild tusker may be avoiding Bhanumati as he was already caught once because of her. Now he doesn't want to take any more chances. It is clearly exhibiting the characteristics of 'once bitten twice shy'," the official said.

Rogue leopard in Belagavi torments forest officials

The Karnataka Forest Department and authorities of Belagavi district have launched a mega operation to catch a leopard which was seen prowling in a residential area and had also attacked a construction worker.

More than 200 staff members from the department and the police, as well as wildlife, anesthetic experts, and district administration have joined the operation.

The authorities are contemplating to rope in two elephants from Sakrebailu Elephant camp to catch the animal.

The leopard has been prowling in the premises of the Golf Club of Belagavi, located in the heart of the city.

On Monday, the leopard surfaced during the search operation in the city, and before the staff could lay a trap with specially designed net, it managed to escape.

The authorities have found pug marks across the city. Twenty-two schools have been closed for 18 days as a precautionary measure.

The movement of the leopard has caused tremendous stress and tension among residents, especially parents and children. –IANS

Fox pack injures 6 in Kalaburagi

The people of Kaddaragi village in Kalaburagi district of Karnataka are facing the threat of fox attacks. Foxes are attacking people and livestock during the night time, leading to panic and tension in the region.

According to local authorities, six persons have been injured so far, and the group of foxes has also injured a cow and a calf.

Kaddaragi village and other villages located in the surrounding areas are close to the forest area that shelters a large number of foxes. These animals enter the residential areas in packs during nights and early morning hours and attack people and livestock.

People are scared to come out of their houses during the night as a pack of 4 to 5 foxes prowl around. They have appealed to the Forest Department officials to provide solutions to the crisis. Mallamma, one of the victims, said that the fox caught her hand when she was out of her house. "Our dog came to my rescue and helped me," she said.

Dyamappa, another victim, said, "It came like a dog and started licking my leg. When I tried to shoo it away, it caught my hand and bit me many times. Later, people helped me get away. Local police have visited the region." –IANS

City bear named by Julia Roberts gets tooth extracted

Bellie Thomas
bellie.thomas@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @Bellie_Mirror

If you thought dental problems and tooth extractions were only for humans, think again. Rescued sloth bears under the care of a wildlife charity, Wildlife SOS, also undergo various endodontic procedures. Odum, a 22-year-old male bear and resident at the NGO's Bannerghatta Bear Rescue Centre in the city, recently underwent an hour-long tooth extraction procedure to prevent further infection.

The rescue centre in Bengaluru is jointly run by Wildlife SOS and the Karnataka Forest Department. The otherwise active and playful 22-year-old bear was off late observed with signs of discomfort and the care staff noticed that he was eating less and had become less active.

Veterinary doctors conducted an X-ray examination which revealed that the bear's lower incisor was broken, causing him immense pain. The veterinarians immediately proceeded to conduct a tooth extraction procedure, following which Odum was prescribed painkillers for a duration of five days as a part of his post-operative care. He was also kept on a semi-liquid diet of porridge for a few days, after which he was back to a normal diet.

"As oral health is a reflection of body health, any decline in dental care can lead to fluctuations in dietary habits and social behaviours. Bacterial infections and permanent canine teeth damage are negative outcomes of declining oral health. It is reassuring to see that our efforts are making a positive difference in the lives of these bears," said Dr Arun A Sha, Director - Research and Veterinary Operations, Wildlife SOS.

Working in partnership with indigenous communities and the Government of India, Wildlife SOS was able to close the curtain on the 'dancing' bear practice in India in 2009. Having rescued 628 sloth bears from this barbaric practice, the organisation found these animals unfit for release into the wild as they had suffered mutilation, severe physical and psychological trauma, as well as chronic medical problems.

Odum, the 22-year-old sloth bear, is looked after at the Bannerghatta Bear Rescue Centre

The exploitation of these bears included being subjected to the painful trauma of having their delicate muscles pierced by hot iron pokers and their teeth forcibly removed. With their injuries mostly left untreated, dental infections, rotting teeth, painful abscesses, and mouth ulcerations, were common among them.

Odum too was a victim of the 'dancing' bear trade, and having been malnourished and poorly cared for as a cub, he suffered from stunted growth.

In 2009, Wildlife SOS rescued him from a village in Karnataka and gave him a second chance at life at the Bannerghatta Bear Rescue Centre. Hollywood actor Julia Roberts, who was filming for 'Eat, Pray, Love' in India at the time, visited the centre, and it was she who named him Odum.

"Over the years, our dedicated veterinarians have been able to provide expert care for our bears by carrying out root canal surgeries, tooth extractions and various endodontics," said Kartick Satyanarayan, Co-founder and CEO Wildlife SOS.

HEALTH TIP: Drinking excessive coffee can trigger anxiety, sleeplessness and restlessness

Chamomile tea can help in reducing menstrual cramps and lower blood sugar levels

BangaloreMirror | 7
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Brain & beauty

Not long ago, neurocosmetics was a myth, but today it is becoming a new way of skin care. Here is how targeting your brain can help get better skin

Goosebumps, blushing, hair-raising fear and going pale, we've all experienced these reactions on our skin, most of which are caused by emotion or feeling, whether it's excitement, nerves, embarrassment or fear. Our mind and our skin are directly 'talking' to each other in some way.

Science proves this beyond doubt: receptors in our cutaneous nervous system bind with neurotransmitters to send messages to the brain and immune systems about external and even internal stimuli that impact our skin. This helps the brain fix any problems, react to stimuli in the right way, and create a feeling of well-being. What happens if these processes are interrupted or slow down? That's when our skin breaks out, and gets inflamed or is over-sensitive. Or simply starts ageing prematurely.

Remember the feeling when you use a product that has menthol in it? Your skin feels cool and there's also a reduction in pain. A massage with aromatherapy oil relaxes your mind as well as your muscles. These products help us in sensorial and textural ways to de-stress or enhance our mood, invigorate us, or soothe us by soothing our skin.

The new generation of clean beauty neuro cosmetics companies has taken this idea one step further. They've created wonderful products using a holistic approach which works you inside and out. These products make your skin look like a million bucks, and they make you feel amazing as well, by working on the inner processes of the nervous system. Such products, developed through extensive research, enhance, support and repair the processes of skin-brain communication at a neurological level - by simple topical application!

You may ask - how is that possible? How can something you apply to your skin impact your brain and your feelings as well as repair your skin concerns? Read on for all the answers.

Mostly derived from natural, plant-based actives, clean beauty neuro cosmetic products work to prolong the life and efficiency of cells. Which means they can reverse the effects of ageing on our skin. The science behind this almost miraculous effect is simple. The ingredients like neuro peptides contained in clean beauty neurocosmetics modulate and enhance those all-important messengers, the neurotransmitters, in their job of communicating with the brain. Once this two-way communication becomes more efficient because of the magic of neurocosmetics, a long-lasting transformation in the skin begins to occur, slowing down ageing, reducing inflammation and supporting healing.

Here's a great example of how this plays out in our skin's nervous system. We all know that stress in our lives shows up so clearly on our skin making it look dull, older or inflamed. This is because stress promotes the release of cortisol, the stress hormone which damages the collagen in our bodies. However, if products containing neuropeptides are used on the skin, they work as neurotransmitters, and dramatically reduce hormones like cortisol, making our skin look immediately younger, healthier and more radiant.

Here's another example of how these cutting-edge new products called neurocosmetics can change the way our skin functions. Some products contain beta-endorphins (another type of neuro peptide) which reduce pain and protect the skin barrier, increase the number of healthy cells, and help them work better - all of that besides helping ageing cells communicate better with the brain. They act directly on the nerve fibres as well, making skin less reactive to outside stimuli, which is good news for those with hypersensitive skin.

> **Mostly derived from natural, plant-based actives, clean beauty neurocosmetic products work to prolong the life and efficiency of cells which means they can reverse effects of ageing**

Neurocosmetics go well beyond the brief of regular cosmetics, helping skin to protect, regenerate or soothe itself, to become younger looking, calmer and more healthy. And they have a relaxing, calming effect on the brain and the nerves, too. In a time where most people are in search of green, clean, gentle skincare products, what could be better than products that transform the inner and outer you?

So if you're in doubt about how cosmetics can work wonders on your skin and improve your mood too, try them for yourself! Check out the new generation of clean neurocosmetics about to launch in India in early September.

—IANS

MIRRORLIGHTS

Tides are in favour of sustainable beauty

People have recently started to pay more attention to the cosmetics they choose. Brands are raising their standards in response to the changing demands as the cosmetics business has experienced a rise in recent years.

Consumers nowadays will choose products that are "eco-friendly," "toxin-free," and "clean" over those packed with chemicals. The tide has undoubtedly shifted in favour of sustainable beauty.

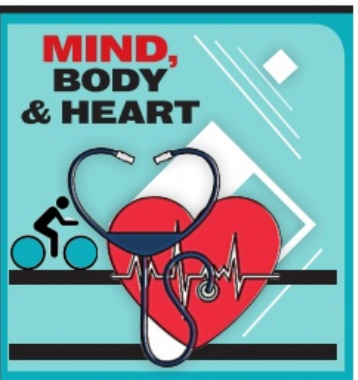
Nearly 50 per cent of 1000 women surveyed by Harper's Bazaar have already included ingredient-focused products, and more than 60% are willing to spend extra money on them.

Anything with parabens, aluminium compounds, phthalates etc should be avoided.

With this ingredient-rich product transition, brands are manufacturing high-performance essentials that give maximum results. Clean beauty, in its wake, has also brought attention to 'sustainability', 'greener' and 'safe for planet' options.

To remain genuine to their customers and satisfy their demands, brands may engage in "greenwashing," which needs to be checked as customers may unintentionally contribute to the environment's continued harm.

Ingredient-focused products are taking over from problem-based ones by treating beauty issues while being environmentally sustainable, clean, and mindful. —IANS



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

My wife and I are both in our early 70s and we've always had a very good marriage - we've been together nearly 50 years, which I'm sure you'll agree is an achievement.
We have three children and four grandchildren, who make us happy, we have enough money, a nice home, and good friends.
However, over the past couple of years we've started arguing, even though we've hardly ever argued in all the years we've been together.
My wife has become short-tempered and never wants to do anything - she prefers to be at home.
I, on the other hand, am in good health and still adventurous, and would like to travel and try new things. Whenever I suggest something, she immediately gets angry and won't even consider it. We now argue over most things.
It's getting me down, especially as we've had such a good life together. Is it usual to run into marital problems this late in life when you've had such a good marriage?

COLEEN SAYS

I think you can run into problems at any point in a marriage, depending on where you are in your life and what else is going on.
For example, couples often run into trouble when they become parents because it presents lots of new challenges. I also think that retirement can be a difficult time and maybe you and your wife have different ideas about how to experience it.
I think you should ask your wife if there's something worrying her and if you can help because you've noticed she doesn't seem happy. Hopefully, you can open up a conversation and talk about how you see your lives panning out. Maybe she's irritable because she feels there's pressure to do things she doesn't really want to.
It's just about compromise, which I'm sure you've done many times.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

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I Latha B M W/o Mukundaraju B G.,R/at no-28,2nd A Cross, SVG Nagar,Huchappa Layout, Nagarabhavi,Bangalore-560072, My Minor Son's Date of birth is wrongly mentioned in SSLC Marks Card as 20-05-2006 instead of 20-06-2006,Passed year 2022 and His father name wrongly mentioned as Mukund Raj B G instead of Mukunda Raju B G., Vide affidavit dated 22-08-2022, Before Notary H S Sakalesh Aradhya,Bangalore

I, Uwais Ahmed Masood S/O, Sardar Masood Ahmed R/o No. 380, 2nd Main, 3rd Cross, Hmt Layout, Anand Nagar, Bengaluru - 560032 have changed my name to Owais Ahmed for all purposes.

I, SIRI MRUDULA KALAHASTI W/o Vishal Kumar Seshagirirao Anil, residing at No. 228, 4th 'A' Cross, Banashankari 3rd Stage, 3rd Phase, 5th Block, Bengaluru-560085,have changed my name to SIRI VISHAL KUMAR by virtue of marriage, vide affidavit dated 22.08.2022, sworn before notary K.S Chandrashekar, Bengaluru

I Mohammad Arkam S/o Mohd Shameem R/o Flat-210, JS Tulip Apartment Ananthapura, Yelahanka Bangalore-560064 have changed my name to Mohd Arkam for all future purposes.

I, Smt. Neelamma W/o Manjunath T., r/at No.126, 1st Main, MP Layout, Chikkasandra, Bangalore 560057 stating that my name is wrongly mentioned as Neela in my son's SSLC (ICSE) Marks Card. My correct name is Neelamma. Hence this affidavit dt. 20.08.2022 before Notary B.Hanumantharaya.

I, MOHAMMED YAKUB ALSO KNOWN AS IRSHAD AHMED, R/at #101,1st Flr, St. Johns Church Rd, Frazertown, Bangalore-5. I, have change my name MOHAMMED YAKUB IRSHAD AHMED, Vide Affidavit Dated: 20/08/2022. Sworn before Notary : Prakash.C Advocate Bangalore

I, Shankar Linge Gowda R/o Flat # A 302, Ramky One North Apartments, Doddaballapura Road, Avalahalli, Yelahanka, Bengaluru - 560064. have changed my minor daughter's name from Khushi Gowda to Saanvi Gowda for all purposes.

I, Kumari Pratibha W/o Shashi Kabra R/o #1005, VRR Fortuna ,Sarjapur Rd ,Chikkabellandur, Post-carmelaram , Thanabellandur, B'luru-560035 have changed my name to Pratibha Kabra for all purposes.

I Murugan A S S/O, Sadashiva R/o #1/1 Mother Theresa Road Mariyannapalya H A Farm Post Bangalore 560024 have changed my name to Praveen Kumar for all purposes.

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Not against government policy or scheme: SC on parties' freebie promises

#New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said it is not against any government policy or scheme, and it started examining the issue of freebies for both welfare of the people and the economy, and now a debate has to take place. A bench headed by Chief Justice N V Ramana said the court's intention was to initiate a wider public debate on the issue of freebies and it was suggested that an expert panel should be formed to examine the issue. The bench, also comprising Justices Hima Kohli and C.T. Ravikumar, said: "We are not against any government policy. We are not against any scheme..."

'Let there be debate'

The Chief Justice added that if tomorrow, the government of India makes a law against freebies, could it be said that the government can say whatever and the court cannot look into it? He added that the court started examining the issue in the interest of both welfare of people and the economy, and now a debate should take place and a committee should be formed.

Acknowledging the complex nature of the issue - what is difference between freebies and welfare, CJI Ramana added that for example, some state gives cycles to poor and the women, and this improves their lifestyle, but the problem is what is freebie and what is a welfare scheme for the upliftment of a person. He added that for a poverty-stricken person in a rural area, his livelihood may depend on a small boat or bicycle, and it is also difficult to sit here and argue on this issue.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal argued that this issue needs to be dealt through a system and not politically, and suggested the Finance Commission should be looped in the process. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta submitted that nobody had an issue with social welfare, but difficulty arises when a party distributed non-essentials such as sarees, television sets etc.

Voter's right

Mehta said the voter has a right to make an informed choice and false promise which the finances do not permit would entail disastrous economic consequences. Senior advocate Vikas Singh, representing petitioner advocate Ashwini Upadhyay, clarified that his case was limited to promises made by parties during elections, and added that parties were hijacking the issue by calling it social welfare, but "in reality, it is fiscal discipline issue, which if not dealt with, would make India a Sri Lanka". **– IANS**

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3 officers sacked for mistaken missile firing

Probe finds IAF officers had deviated from standard procedure

#NEW DELHI

Three officers of the Indian Air Force were sacked on Tuesday for the March 9 accidental firing of a Brahmos missile that landed in Pakistan. An official statement said the services of the officers were terminated after a Court of Inquiry (CoI) found that deviation from the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) by them led to the accidental firing of the missile.

Following the incident, the Defence Ministry described it as "deeply regrettable" while Pakistan lodged a strong protest over it.

"A BrahMos missile was accidentally fired on March 9. A Court of Inquiry (CoI), set up to establish the facts of the case, including fixing responsibility for the incident, found that deviation from the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) by three officers led to the accidental firing of the missile," the statement said.

"These three officers have primarily been held responsible for the incident. Their services have been terminated by the central government with immediate effect. Termination orders have been served upon the officers on August 23," it said.

File photo of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile test-fired

Though the Indian Air Force did not mention the ranks and names of the officials whose services have been terminated, it is learnt that a Group Captain is among the three.

The incident had taken place on March 9 and Pakistan had lodged its protest with India the next day.

On March 11, the Defence Ministry said the missile was fired accidentally and it landed in Pakistan.

The ministry had said then that it was caused by a technical malfunction in the course of the routine maintenance of the missile, adding the government has taken a serious view of the incident.

Separately, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said in Parliament on March 15 that SOPs for operations, maintenance, and inspection of such systems were being reviewed.

Following the incident, Pakistan summoned India's Charge d'Affaires in Islamabad and conveyed its strong protest over the "unprovoked" violation of its airspace by the supersonic "projectile" of Indian origin. **– PTI**

Bilkis Bano case: SC agrees to examine plea against remission to convicts

#New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Tuesday agreed to examine a plea challenging the remission granted to the 11 men convicted for the rape and murder of multiple people in the 2002 Bilkis Bano case.

The plea was mentioned by advocate Aparna Bhat and senior advocate Kapil Sibal before a bench headed by Chief Justice N.V. Ramana. Counsel submitted that they are challenging the remission order, emphasising that a pregnant woman was raped and people were killed. As the bench queried if the convicts were granted remission by virtue of the top court order, Sibal replied that the apex court merely directed the state to consider the matter, and they were challenging the remission, not the top court order.

The bench said: "We will see." As Bhat urged the court to list the matter for Wednesday, the bench replied: "Let us see the papers."

Eleven convicts, sentenced to life imprisonment, were released from Godhra sub-jail on August 15 after the Gujarat government allowed their release under its remission policy. The convicts had completed more than 15 years in jail.

A woman holds a placard during a protest against the release of men convicted of gang-raping Bilkis Bano during the 2002 riots in Gujarat

In January 2008, a special CBI court in Mumbai had sentenced the convicts to life imprisonment for gang-rape and murder of seven members of Bilkis Bano's family. The Bombay High Court upheld their conviction.

Bilkis Bano was 21 years old and five months pregnant when she was gang-raped while fleeing the violence that broke out after the Godhra train burning.

The PIL has been filed by Subhashini Ali, Revathy Laul, and Roop Rekha Rani, assailing the order of the competent authority of the Gujarat government by way of which 11 persons who were accused in a set of heinous offences were allowed to walk free on August 15, pursuant to remission being extended to them. **– IANS**

Chai-Time

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

There are 86,400 seconds in a day. If a timer that counts hundredths of seconds is set to zero at midnight, what time is it in terms of hours, minutes, seconds and hundreds of seconds when this counter reaches the first prime number past 5,638,614?

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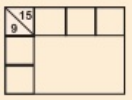
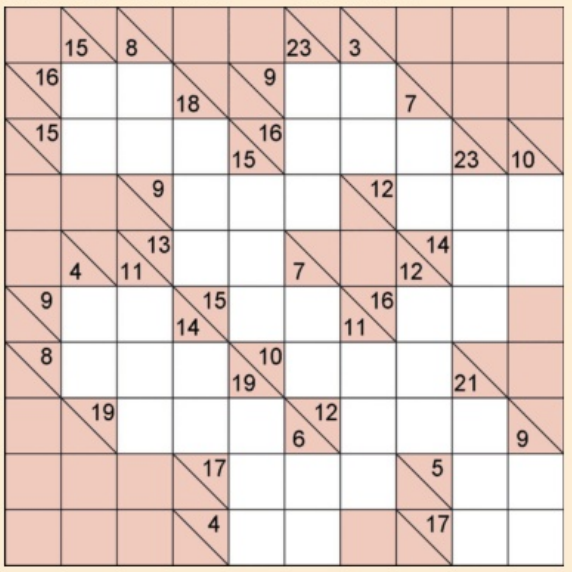
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

Kakuro

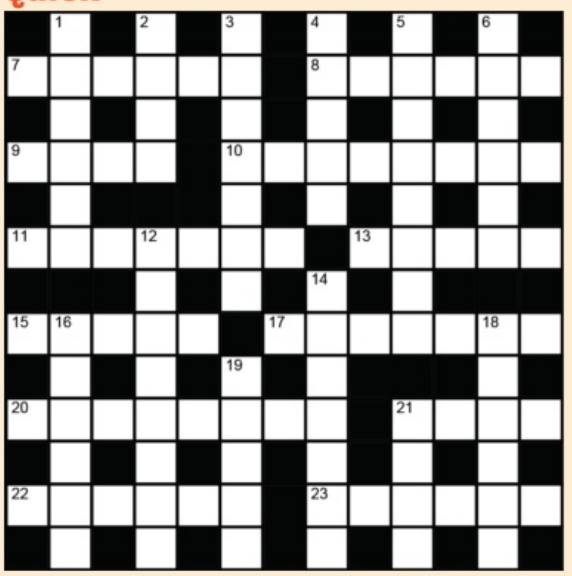
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Martial art (4,2)
8 Embodiment or incarnation (6)
9 Concludes (4)
10 Control lever of an aeroplane? (8)
11 Safeguard (7)
13 Exclusive news item (5)
15 Extends across - like a bridge, perhaps (5)
17 Understand (7)
20 Pain-relieving medicines (8)
21 Russian sea (4)
22 Grew less or diminished (6)
23 Small insects like greenfly (6)

DOWN

1 Artillery soldier? (6)
2 They are usually poached, scrambled, boiled or fried (4)
3 Topic (7)
4 Sepals collectively (5)
5 Strategic (8)
6 Cowboy of the pampas (6)
12 Unable to distinguish musical pitch (4-4)
14 Coarse sacking (7)
16 Curry containing pork (6)
18 ___ up : rises? (6)
19 Serpent (5)
21 Dull pain (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: T EQUALS D

KN ULP VJQW WL BJRH GHJOH, ULP TLQ'W WJMR WL ULPZ NZKHQTC. ULP WJMR WL ULPZ HQHBKHC.

Linemaro

You have something in your eye..oh, it's just a sparkle

Mindchow

The main accomplishment of almost all organised protests is to annoy people who are not in them

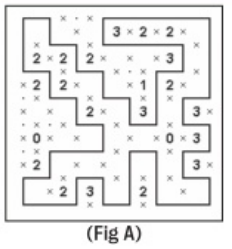
Joke of the day

Money can't buy you happiness but it does bring you a more pleasant form of misery

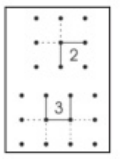
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

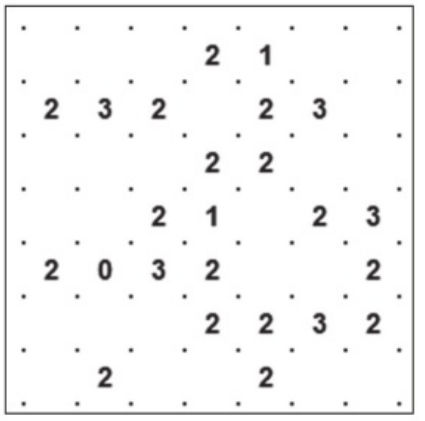


(Fig B) Not Allowed

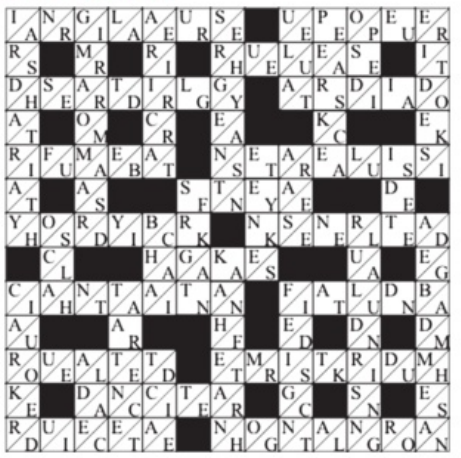
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



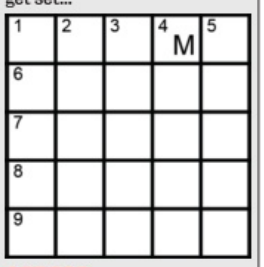
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

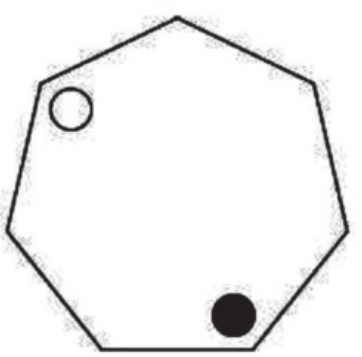
1 Musts; 6 Atman; 7 Saree; 8 A stud; 9 Sores

DOWN

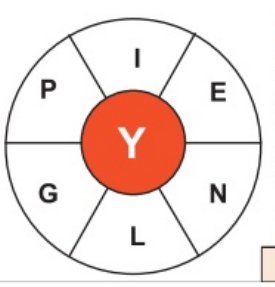
1 Reams; 2 Art do; 3 Nu USA; 4 Mesas; 5 Tests

Mensapuzzle

At each stage the black dot moves three corners clockwise and the white dot moves four corners anti clockwise. After how many stages will both dots be together in the same corner?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

02 Average; 03 Good; 04 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

2				9	3		5	
8	9		2		1			
						9		2
	2	7			9			
	8		6		5		7	
			4			8	1	
3		1						
			5		8		3	4
	4		3	6				5

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

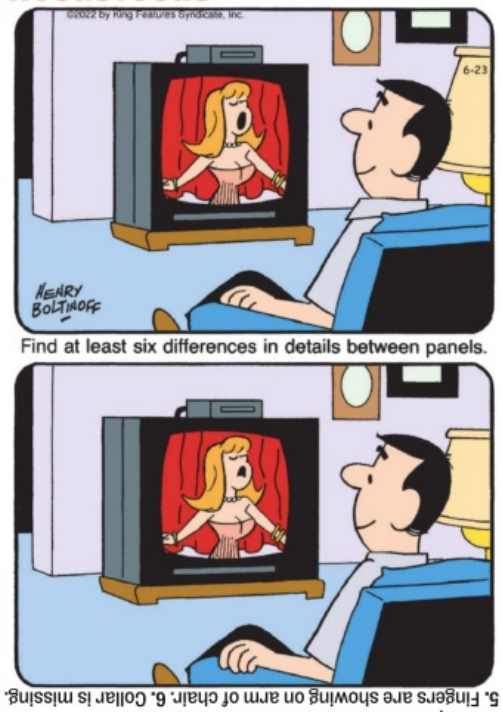
Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy: [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ] = 17
3 4 5 5

Medium: [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ] = 26
1 7 9 9

Hard: [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ] = 20
1 5 9 2

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

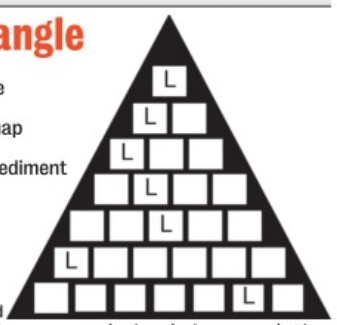
Differences: 1. TV is wider. 2. Frame is moved. 3. Lampshade is smaller. 4. Mouth is different. 5. Fingers are showing on arm of chair. 6. Collar is missing.

Riddler

General Custer is surrounded by Red Indians and he's the only cowboy left. He finds an old lamp in front of him and rubs it. Out pops a genie. The genie grants Custer one wish, with a catch. He says, "Whatever you wish for, each Red Indian will get two of the same thing." Custer ponders a while and thinks: "If I get a bow and arrow they get two. If I get a rifle they get two!" He then rubs the bottle again and out pops the genie. "Well," the genie asks "have you made up your mind?" What did Custer ask for to help him get away?

Alpha triangle

1 Litre
2 51 in ancient Rome
3 Rim
4 Banana-peel mishap
5 Heaps
6 Had a speech impediment
7 Drives away



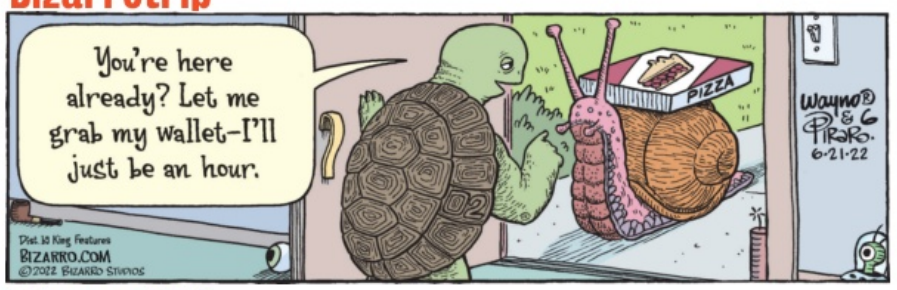
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

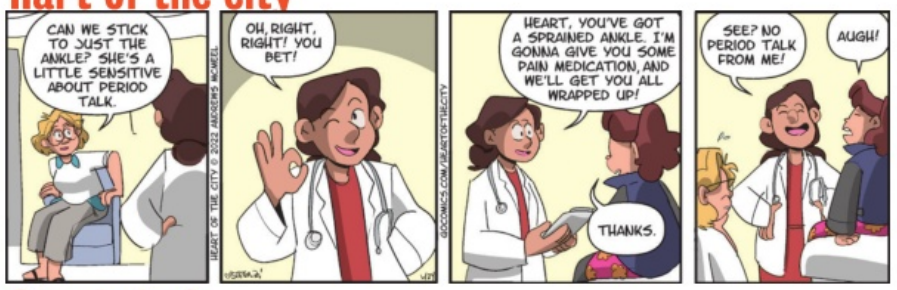
Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

Hart of the city



Crankshaft

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may be busy at work. Your network may be increased, and with the help of it, you are likely to get a big order in terms of business. You are likely to start innovations in partnerships. You may get some investments in your business, which will increase its potential in the near future. Your emotional relationship with your spouse will be improved.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may be busy with your family. You may feel happy to enjoy your time with them. Some new sources of income may open and boost your financial health. You may have control over your expenditure on worthless stuff. You may buy some worthwhile items, which may increase your social status.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, help from your elders may help you, and you may try to improve your patience. Your focus may come back and help you achieve your goals. You may perform well in terms of business and domestic life. There may be some balance between expenditure and savings. It may boost your bank balance.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today some dissatisfaction may creep into your mind. You may feel lazy and dull. It affects your current speed in terms of projects. Lovebirds are advised to avoid any important decision in terms of marriage. Job seekers may be disappointed in terms of interviews.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today your internal power can make you happy. You may get short gains in terms of investments. You can form a good equation with your boss. Promotions could be on the cards. Your prestige in society may be increased. You may also expect some work-related trips.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may be blessed by the moon. You may get a high position at work due to your hard work. Your performance in the office may be improved. You may also meet some influential person, who may give you good advice to improve your life. You will manage your domestic issues very easily, which may boost harmony.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may be happy, and things may be somehow better. You can plan to visit some spiritual place. it may give you inner strength. You may also donate some amount to charity. You can expect some overseas travel in terms of education or work. Couples may get married. Singles are likely to find their soulmate.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may feel unhappy and dull. It affects your way of working. There may be some delay in your projects that are to be completed. It may affect your prestige in professional and domestic life. It is advised to avoid adventure tours or rash driving. Lovebirds may have break-ups. Job seekers may be disappointed in terms of a new job.

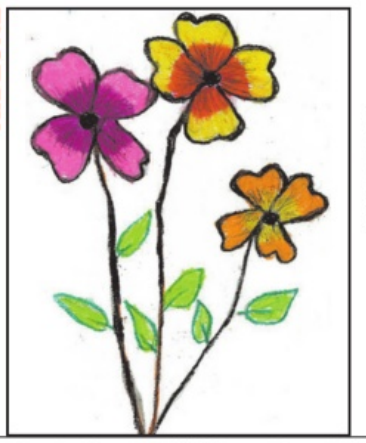
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may feel positive vibrations around you. Things are under control. You may plan to start a new business in a partnership. You can expect long distance travel as well. You will develop faith in your spouse, which will bring harmony to your domestic life.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may perform your best in the office. You may have good bonding with your boss and can get some new responsibilities in terms of promotions. Chronic health issues may be cured now. You may get good incentives for your work. Disputes with your siblings may be resolved now. Jobseekers may find a new job.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, your children's education could keep you busy. You may plan for their higher studies. Couples may hear good news in terms of children. You may want to update your skills and make a plan for higher studies to get promotions in your current job. Singles may find their soulmate. Those related to education, consultants, and bankers will do better.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may feel dissatisfaction and may not be able to manage your responsibilities. Your investments may give you some losses. You are advised to read documents carefully before putting your signature on them. Elder's health can make you upset. You may plan to reconstruct your house, but postpone renovation for a while.

KIDZONE



Anoushka Ishwar, 9 Years, Rastrothana Vidya Kendra

Arya K Prasannan, 10 Years NCFE School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
Next prime is 5638631
5638631 - 31 hun
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15 h, 39 m
HH:MM:SS:hh
15:39:45:31
Check:
15*60+39*60+45
= 56386
10*56386+31
= 5638631
ANS: 15:39:45:31

BULL'S EYE
YELPING
lying, plying, yelp,

RIDDLER
One Glass Eye

FAST FIVE

S	T	U	M	S
M	A	N	A	T
E	R	A	S	E
A	D	U	S	T
R	O	S	E	S

STRIKE OUT

A	N	G	L	E	R	S		U	P	P	E	R		
		R		R		H	U	L	A	S		I		
H	E	A	D	I	L	Y		T	R	I	A	D		
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A		A		S	T	Y	L	E						
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C	A	N	T	A	T	A		F	A	U	N	A		
U		R		F		E	D			D				
R	U	L	E	D		T	R	I	T	I	U	M		
E	A	N	I	T	A		G		N			E		
A	N	O	D	Y	N	E	S		A	R	A	L		
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K	U	N	G	F	U		A	V	A	T	A	R		
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QUICK

G		E	S		C		T		G					
K	U	N	G	F	U		A	V	A	T	A	R		
E		D		E		A		I		C		N		
S	H	R	A	N	K		A	P	H	I	D	S		
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N		G		B		L		C		U				
K	U	N	G	F	U		A	V	A	T	A	R		
I		F		E		N		O		N		G		

MENSA PUZZLE
They will never appear together in the same corner as four corners clockwise and clockwise

QUOTE UNCODE
If you want to make peace, you don't talk to your friends. You talk to your enemies.

SUDOKU

2	7	6	8	9	3	4	5	1
8	9	5	2	4	1	3	6	7
4	1	3	7	5	6	9	8	2
6	2	7	1	8	9	5	4	3
1	8	4	6	3	5	7	2	9
5	3	9	4	2	7	8	1	6
3	5	1	9	7	4	6	2	8
9	6	2	5	1	8	7	3	4
7	4	8	3	6	2	1	9	5

ALPHA TRIANGLE
L, I, I, P, S, I, I, P, E, D, S, I, P, E, S, L, I, P, S, I, P, E, D, S, I, P, E, S, L, I, P, S, I, P, E, D, S, I, P, E, S, L, I, P, S

Key ingredient

Bhumi tells us what she believes plays crucial role in actor's life

Bhumi Pednekar has had one of the most phenomenal Bollywood journeys transcending from a casting director to a full-blown Hindi film star. Over the last few years, her talent and versatility have helped her to bag some great roles where she relentlessly proved her potential as an actor.

The secret, says the actor is being consistent and that plays a crucial role in an actor's life.

Bhumi has endorsed many brands in her career. From endorsing three brands in 2021, she is now the face of seven brands including the likes of global cosmetic and women's hygiene companies.

In an interview, Bhumi said, "I think what has worked for me it is the consistency of performance and the fact that my films have not only won me accolades for acting but have also delivered good box office results. In today's day and age, consistency for an actor is everything because people are only connecting to quality of work and films."

The 33-year-old actor added, "I think my unconventional choices have also stood out and become my brand identity. Today, I'm assuming that people naturally feel that if I'm a part of a project, it will be different, disruptive and high on content. I feel they know that I will do my best to deliver a performance that they will love."

Bhumi continued, "I have earned this badge by working very hard and I wear this with great pride because no one has given me anything. I have done this all on my own, through sheer hard work and belief in my abilities to deliver good performances in quality cinema. Hopefully, by doing so, I have also made a mark on the minds and hearts of audiences."

On the work front, Bhumi has several projects in her kitty. She will be seen in Anubhav Sinha's 'Bheed'. Also in her kitty is Ajay Bahl's 'The Ladykiller', a suspense drama, which revolves around a small town playboy who falls in love with a self-destructive beauty as they embark on a whirlwind romance. The film also stars Arjun Kapoor in the lead role.

She has Shashank Khaitan's 'Govinda Aala Re', 'Afwaa', Gauri Khan produced 'Bhakshak' and a couple of more unannounced projects.

—ANI

Harry, Olivia on 'toxic' talk about relationship

Singer Harry Styles and his girlfriend, actor Olivia Wilde opened up on the online backlash they have received over their relationship.

According to Fox News, the couple talked openly about how some of the devoted One Direction fanbases felt that their relationship was inappropriate.

"It's obviously a difficult feeling to feel like being close to me means you're at the ransom of a corner of Twitter or something," Styles said in an interview for a Rolling Stone cover story that was published on Monday.

Harry said that even though he is aware that fans are curious about his personal life, he acknowledged that it is difficult for him to see the people who are closest to him become the targets of criticism.

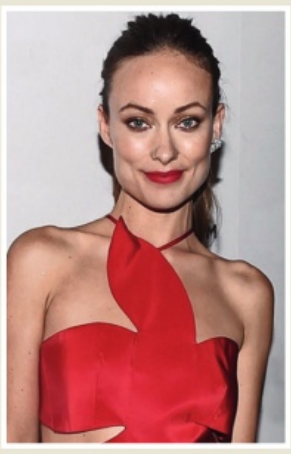
"That obviously doesn't make me feel good," Styles said. He added, "I just wanted to sing. I didn't want to get into it if I was going to hurt people like that."

When questioned about the negativity, Wilde emphasised that only a small portion of Styles' supporters leave harsh comments. The bulk were "really lovely folks," the "Booksmart" director told the media site.

"What I don't understand about the cruelty you're referencing is that that kind of toxic negativity is the antithesis of Harry, and everything he puts out there," she said.

"I don't personally believe the hateful energy defines his fanbase at all. The majority of them are true champions of kindness."

ANI



'Will continue to act till it's exciting'

Perks of being an actor have made life easier for Vijay Deverakonda, who says he treats acting as a job that he will do till the time there is excitement in it.

The Hyderabad-born actor debuted with the 2011 Telugu film "Nuvvila" and shot to nationwide fame with the 2017 blockbuster "Arjun Reddy".

From Maharashtra, Bihar, Gujarat, Kerala to his home state Telangana, massive crowds turned out to catch a glimpse of Deverakonda during the multi-city tour promotions for his upcoming feature "Liger".

He is pegged as a rising pan-India star, but the 33-year-old is not delusional about his fame. "I know acting is not going to be forever, I treat it as a job. I love my job and I am mad about acting but I will do it till the time I am excited about it. Having friends and family and a life beyond work is important to me. I keep that very close to me."I enjoy the perks of being an actor. I am grateful as it makes life easy. Today if anybody is sick in my family, I can get the best doctor because I am Vijay Deverakonda. This is the best thing that has happened. I am grateful that my career has given me so much," Deverakonda told a news agency in an interview here.

The actor said he is yet to wrap his head around the outpour of love and attention from fans across India. Recently, his fan meets in Mumbai and Patna were called off midway due to an uncontrollable crowd.

"I wonder what this fan following is for as I haven't done anything here, I am coming here (in Hindi speaking belt) for the first time and I am not part of this industry.

PTI

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

500th movie

Well-known character artiste Vaijnath Biradar is all set to prove his talent with upcoming 90 Bidi Manig Nadi (meaning leave 90 and go home). This is Biradar's 500th movie. Earlier, its title was 90 Hodi Manig Nadi (meaning have 90 and go home). However, the directors Umesh Badaradinni and Nagaraj Arehole changed it to 90 Bidi Manig Nadi as the Regional Censor Board and others have objected to the earlier title stating that it encourages youth to consume alcohol.

According to Nagaraj Arehole, Vaijnath Biradar has put up all his efforts to showcase his acting skills. "Audiences will appreciate his dancing skills in a song sequence along with Neeta Maindargi. We released the song – Hey Hudugi Ninna Noodthaayiddhare - on Monday. The movie is aimed at conveying a message to society, especially youths, on the ill-effects of alcohol," he said.

Kabir in Ahatha

Meet Kabir Somayaji who is making debut as a hero in Sandalwood with Ahatha (meaning Strongman). Somayaji, who hails from Mumbai, graduated from Toronto School of Management, Canada. He has basic training in acting from Anupam Kher's Actor Prepares – The School for Actors. The film is being directed by Venkat Bharadwaj.

"Namaskara. I am your Kabir Somayaji. The first look of Kannada movie Ahatha has been launched. It is my debut in Kannada. Please bless me," said Kabir Somayaji in a video message.

According to director Venkat Bharadwaj, Kabir Somayaji has the potential to establish himself as an actor in Sandalwood. "I am very happy with Kabir's performance," said Venkat Bharadwaj, adding that Ahatha will be his 9th movie in Kannada as a director.

Priya Hegde, who acted in Jiilka, is paired opposite Kabir. It was shot in Bengaluru. Ramesh Pandit, Ugram Manju, Gopal Krishna Deshpande, P D Satheesh, Jyothi Marur, Nagendra Urs are the important artistes in this movie.